

Message Text

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AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 10132

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICJ, BR, GW

SUBJECT: CANDIDACY OF JOSE SETTE CAMARA, BRAZILIAN
AMBASSADOR TO PRAGUE, FOR ICJ SEAT

REFS: (A) BRASILIA 1820 (B) STATE 067709 (C) BRASILIA 5261

1. SCHWEBEL'S IMPRESSIONS OF JOSE SETTE CAMARA'S
SERVICE AS MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION FOLLOW.
SETTE CAMARA IS CONSUMMATE DIPLOMAT AND VERY ABLE
INTERNATIONAL LAWYER. HE HAS HAD YEARS OF SERVICE ON ILC,
NOT ONLY AS MEMBER BUT AS ASSISTANT TO GILBERTO AMADO
WHEN LATTER WAS ILC MEMBER. IN ADDITION TO HIS SERVICE
AS BRAZILIAN PERMREP TO UN, SETTE CAMARA HAS REMAINED
AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF SIXTH COMMITTEE OF UNGA. SETTE
CAMARA HAS SOLID KNOWLEDGE OF AND INTEREST IN INTER-
NATIONAL LAW AND, ON GROUNDS OF INTELLECT, LEGAL CAPA-
BILITY AND TRAINING, CONSCIENTIOUSNESS AND PERSONALITY,
HE IS WELL SUITED TO BE JUDGE OF ICJ.

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2. IN ILC, SETTE CAMARA INVARIABLY RENDERS STRONG
SUPPORT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY CAUSES, EXCEPT WHEN THEY
MIGHT CLASH WITH NATIONALISTIC BRAZILIAN INTERESTS, AS IN
RESPECT OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES. HE CAN CERTAINLY
UNDERSTAND INTERESTS OF DEVELOPED STATES BUT WHAT
WEIGHT HE WOULD GIVE TO THEM IN ANY CASE INVOLVING NORTH-

SOUTH DIFFERENCES MAY BE OPEN TO QUESTION. SETTE CAMARA'S ATTACHMENT TO DUE PROCESS IN ILC HAS BEEN SCRUPULOUS, HOWEVER. HIS PERSONAL VIEWS ARE MARKEDLY ANTI-COMMUNIST; HIS DISPARAGING COMMENTS ON THE INEQUITIES OF COMMUNIST RULE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ARE UNCONCEALED. HE AND HIS WIFE ARE FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES, HAVING LIVED THERE FOR YEARS. ONE OF HIS SONS IS A PHYSICIAN PRACTICING IN U.S.

3. WHETHER THE MEXICAN CANDIDATE (GOMEZ ROBLEDO) WHO IS COMPETING WITH SETTE CAMARA FOR THE SEAT FROM WHICH URUGUAY'S JUDGE JIMENEZ DE ARECHAGA IS RETIRING WOULD BE ANY MORE OBJECTIVE IN HIS TREATMENT OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IS UNKNOWN TO SCHWEBEL. IN ALL, SETTE CAMARA MAY WELL BE AS QUALIFIED AND BALANCED A CANDIDATE FOR THE COURT AS IS LIKELY TO BE NOMINATED BY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES THESE DAYS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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